

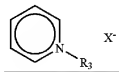
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

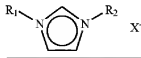
1. (Currently amended) A method for recovering fine particles dispersed in an aqueous medium comprising, adding an ionic liquid, which does not dissolve substantially a dispersing aqueous medium, to the aqueous medium containing fine particles, and transferring said fine particles from said aqueous medium to the ionic liquid, wherein the amount of the ionic liquid b mL to be added to 10mL of the aqueous medium containing said fine particles by a mM dispersing concentration is in the range so as the ratio a/b is $0.05 \leq a/b < 1.0$, and ~~transferring said fine particles from said aqueous medium to the ionic liquid~~ wherein said ionic liquid is an organic ionic liquid selected from the group consisting of compounds represented by following formulae 1,

a.

formulae 1



b.



c.



wherein, R₃ and R⁺ are an alkyl group of carbon number 1-7, n is an integer of 1-3, R₁ is an alkyl group which can possess a substitution group of carbon number 1-7, X⁻ is selected from the

group consisting of NO_3^- , $(\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3)_2\text{N}^-$, TFSI, Cl^- and SO_3H^- .

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) The method for recovering fine particles dispersed in the aqueous medium of claim 1, wherein the ionic liquid is an ionic liquid which is liquid at room temperature.

Claims 4-11 (Canceled)